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PATENT  
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Dahlbäck  
SERIAL NUMBER: 10/037,296 ART UNIT: 1644  
FILING DATE: December 21, 2001 EXAMINER: David A. Saunders  
TITLE: METHODS AND REAGENTS FOR DETERMINING PROTEIN S

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

This paper is submitted with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), after the mailing of a final Office action from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on July 16, 2004. Applicant requests entry of the following amendments, reconsideration and withdrawal of all grounds of rejections, and passage of the case to allowance. A check is enclosed to cover the fee for the RCE and additional new claim fees. Applicant believes that no other fees are due. Should Applicant be in error, and additional fee or time is needed for the entry and consideration of this paper, please consider this a conditional petition for the appropriate extension of time and also conditional authorization to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 20-0531.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** are found on page 6 of this paper.

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